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Jane E. Norton
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NORTON ANNOUNCES AID FOR VETERANS

Lieutenant Governor Jane Norton distributes grants totaling over \$83,000 for Colorado veterans

(DENVER) – Lieutenant Governor Jane Norton today announced over \$83,000 in grants from the Colorado State Veterans Trust Fund.

The grant money will fund programs for veterans who face the gravest of challenges in today's society. Combined with citizen participation and local businesses volunteering services, the programs will assist veterans with medical, eye and dental care, clothing, shelter, and counseling.

"We owe the privilege of our daily freedoms to those that have stood in uniform for this Nation, ready to give their lives in defense of threats from dangerous enemies," said Norton. "Here in Colorado, we have a special place in our hearts for the 440,000 veterans and their families that stepped forward to serve."

Ralph Bozella, chairman of the Colorado Board of Veterans Affairs, said the funds, administered by the board, "are available to assist in transportation programs, food and shelter for veterans, and other worthwhile programs that provide a 'direct service' to the veterans' community."

The Trust Fund, created with the theme "One percent to those who gave 100 percent," in 2001, is administered by the Colorado Board of Veterans Affairs and funded through one percent of the Colorado tobacco settlement money.

Statewide, 14 grants totaling over \$ 200,000 will be announced throughout the rest of the year. Distributed today were:

- \$5,000 to the Disabled American Veterans for the 22nd annual Veterans Stand Down, an event held in November providing clothing, survival gear, medical assistance, dental care and eye care to veterans.

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- \$75,000 to the American Legion Post 17 to assist the homeless veterans seeking shelter and assist former incarcerated veterans find shelter and employment.
- \$3,600 to the American Legion State Headquarters to assist the VetCenter with providing financial assistance to veterans undergoing counseling at the center.

Jane Norton was sworn in as Colorado's 46th Lieutenant Governor on January 13, 2003. Her responsibilities include serving as the chair of the Colorado Commission of Indian Affairs; acting as point person for the Owens Administration on health insurance reform; strengthening families by promoting adoption, early childhood care and education efforts/initiatives, mentoring and volunteerism; and serving as Colorado's delegate to the Aerospace States Association.

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